

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for storing and reporting pharmacy data, comprising the steps of:

generating by a plurality of pharmacies, each of the pharmacies operating within a managed care organization, electronic pharmacy data comprising medical, financial and transactional information related to pharmaceutical transactions;

receiving over a network, by a processing center of the managed care organization, a data transfer request to transfer respective electronic pharmacy data from at least one of the plurality of pharmacies;

providing first access security by the processing center in response to the data transfer request, wherein the first access security includes checking credentials defined by the processing center and submitted for authorization by the at least one pharmacy;

providing second access security by the processing center in case the at least one pharmacy passes the first access security, wherein the second access security includes, prior to accepting the respective electronic pharmacy data by the processing center, checking whether the respective electronic pharmacy data meet at least one predefined validity requirement defined by the processing center;

receiving, by the processing center, a transfer of the respective electronic pharmacy data pursuant to compliance with the second access security;

processing, organizing and structuring the electronic pharmacy data by the processing center to format the electronic pharmacy data in accordance with at least one of a predetermined protocol and format;

storing the processed electronic pharmacy data in a data warehouse;

storing subsets of the processed electronic pharmacy data in a data mart, the subsets being adapted to meet specific demands of particular requestors in terms of analysis, content, presentation and ease of use format, by storing a portion of a larger set of data residing in the data warehouse thereby to allow preparation of predetermined sets of reports pertinent to the particular requestors;

receiving by the processing center a data request from a data requestor to obtain at least a portion of the processed electronic pharmacy data, the data requestor having a privilege level identifying the type of data available to the requestor;

providing third access security by the processing center in response to the data request, wherein the third access security includes checking credentials defined by the processing center and submitted for authorization by the data requestor ;

providing fourth access security by the processing center in case the data requestor passes the third access security, wherein the fourth access security includes checking whether requested electronic pharmacy data is consistent with the scope of the privilege level of the data requestor;

formatting the portion of the electronic pharmacy data requested by the data requestor into a report pursuant to compliance with the fourth access security, the portion of the electronic pharmacy data for the report being developed from the data in the data warehouse or the subsets of the data in the data mart; and
providing the report to the requestor.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

encrypting by the respective plurality of pharmacies the pharmacy data before it transferring the electronic pharmacy data to the processing center; and

decrypting the electronic pharmacy data by the processing center after the electronic pharmacy data is received.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic pharmacy data are received via an electronic communications network.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the requestor requests and receives the report by means of an electronic communications network.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein the electronic communications network is an intranet.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein the electronic communications network is the internet.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the requestor is selectively allowed access to a greater or lesser portion of the electronic pharmacy data based upon predetermined criteria.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of checking by the processing center the electronic pharmacy data for defects before storing it.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of encrypting the report by the processing center before sending it to the requestor.

Claims 10-14 (canceled).

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the report represents financial performance by an individual pharmacy, financial performance by a plurality of pharmacies, or a medication review.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the processing center formats the electronic pharmacy data or the report to comply with HIPAA.